

## PSM Inputs on the OEWG on Data

(16/12/22)

The Private Sector Mechanism (PSM) welcomes the opportunity to weigh in on the priority issues and policy-relevant areas to be addressed through this CFS policy convergence process and included in the policy recommendations. The PSM appreciates the HLPE Report on Data collection and analysis tools for food security and nutrition which highlights the need for harmonized frameworks for data collection, sharing and utilization; collaboration between different stakeholders; the training on individuals on data; as well as the need for leveraging data and new data technologies for FSN related programs. To complement the HLPE Report, the PSM encourages the CFS Secretariat provide concrete recommendations for implementation in the following ways.

### Focus on data-informed and science-based recommendations

The PSM urges the CFS Secretariat to ensure that the Zero Draft focuses on data-informed and science-based policies to strengthen our food systems and respond to the data gaps in agriculture. The identification of important data gaps in the HLPE Report is useful and ensuring the proposed recommendations lead to the provision of nutritious foods at an affordable and sustainable manner which is both socially and economically acceptable is also important.

### Promote the inclusive collaboration to solving potential data issues

Closing the data gap requires all stakeholders on board, including the Private Sector. Throughout the HLPE Report references to the Private Sector remain unduly negative and under-appreciative of the sector. In fact, there are very few positive mentions of the private sector as an existing collaborator, source of technology or data, with most references coming from a risk-management perspective, which is applicable to all actors. It would be constructive for the Zero Draft to share activities, practices, initiatives that are effectively working in a collaborative effort between governments, international agencies, the private sector, civil society and academia.

Zero Draft Recommendations should reflect the needs and concerns of farmers, not only in providing data, but also consuming data. The Private Sector engaged throughout the agri-food value chain are aware of these concerns and responsive to different extents. For example, private sector actors working in digital agriculture monitor closely the issues of data ownership and privacy for farmers and strive for the proper management of data through their privacy and data ownership agreements, licenses, and practices. The sector has extensive guidance to share in response to these concerns regarding the control, transparency, and fairness with respect to data. To this end, the PSM looks forward to a Zero Draft that recognizes data concerns are held by all sectors, and solutions should come from all actors.

### Ensure the Zero Draft acknowledges the incentives and frameworks required to bridge the data gap

The PSM recognizes the need for recommendations to promote greater prioritization and investment, as well as the utilization of better and more actionable data to track achievement towards the SDG indicators. Appropriate and effective policy needs to incentivize investment, research, and development. We would appreciate the Zero Draft include recommendations that reflect the need for harmonized and implementable frameworks that ensure data interoperability, high level playing fields and clear accountability mechanisms. This would provide the private sector with the right incentives to collect and share data (which comes at a cost).